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BRIERLEY HILL
URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL.



REPORT

on the Works of the

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

for 1956.

J. H. DONNELLY,
Medical Officer of Health.

H. J. PARKER,
Chief Public Health Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.

BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL



*With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health*

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BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

J. H. DONNELLY, T.D., L.R.C.S. (Ed.), L.R.C.P. (Ed.), L.R.F.P. & S. (Glas.), D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

* H. J. PARKER, M.A.P.H.I., CERT.R.S.I., M.INST.P.C.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

† * C. H. CRAWFORD, M.A.P.H.I., CERT.S.I.B.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

† * H. P. GRAYSHON, M.A.P.H.I., CERT.S.I.B.

* T. A. WASS, M.A.P.H.I., CERT.S.I.B. (Resigned June 1956).

† * D. A. FOGG, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H. (Commenced October 1956).

Student Public Health Inspectors:

E. LEES

N. MILLINER

Veterinary Surgeons:

D. J. ANTHONY, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., F.R.S.H.

D. HOWIE, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., F.R.S.H.

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MISS J. D. PEDEN, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., County Buildings, Stafford.

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* Holds Meat and Food Certificates.

† Holds Smoke Inspectors Certificate.

BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1956

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BRIERLEY HILL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1956.

Infectious Diseases

Notifications for the year were the lowest since 1947 and totalled 162: 134 of these were whooping cough. 8 cases of the food poisoning variety were notified and investigations revealed that these were isolated from each other—all the patients returned to normal health within 48 hours without sequelae.

Poliomyelitis

Research has made it possible for the production of a vaccine which it is hoped will protect those suitably vaccinated against this disease. Production of the vaccine and distribution will take some time to organise: it is, however, excellent news that this disease may be controlled in the same way as diphtheria.

Smallpox

It is a great regret that full advantage is not being taken of smallpox vaccination. It will be seen from the table that there is a very small percentage who take advantage of this very valuable protection.

<i>Years</i>	<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Vaccinations</i>	<i>% of Live Births</i>
1954	744	117	15.72
1955	666	109	16.36
1956	710	165	23.24

Tuberculosis

Although the notification rate remains high, the death rate from this disease has been falling steadily: the 5 deaths in 1956 being the lowest recorded.

The "recovery rate," as evidenced by the number removed from the tuberculosis register as having "been cured," shows a marked increase, the figure for this year is 28 as compared with 10 for 1955. There is no doubt that the newer methods of treatment are making this possible, and it is hoped that the recovery figure will continue to improve. This, with the reduction in the notification rate, would indicate that the disease will soon be under control.

Mass Radiography

Mass radiography was carried out at 8 different sites throughout the Urban District during the period 22nd February to 26th March. The total number examined was 3,793. This showed a drop of 1,525 compared with the 1954 figure: it is difficult to account for this reduction.

19 cases of tuberculosis and 39 cases of non-tuberculous conditions were discovered.

Infantile Mortality

The constant effort to reduce the infantile mortality rate continues. It will be seen from Table I that of the 15 infantile deaths recorded 10 were caused by prematurity and congenital conditions.

The total deaths from congenital conditions for the years 1950-1956 were 71 and from non-congenital conditions 59. The figures show a steady decrease in deaths from non-congenital conditions and reflect the efforts of the general practitioners and the help and assistance available to mothers and children in the various clinics and hospitals.

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Live Births</i>	<i>Congenital Conditions</i>	<i>Non- Congenital Conditions</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rate per 1000 Live Births</i>
1950	769	7	12	19	24.71
1951	749	9	11	20	26.70
1952	762	15	9	24	31.51
1953	773	9	8	17	21.99
1954	744	10	8	18	24.19
1955	666	11	6	17	25.53
1956	710	10	5	15	21.13

Cancer

In recent years much attention has been drawn to cancer of the lungs and bronchus, and many avenues are being explored in order to pin-point the cause or causes. At the moment it is not possible to make a definite statement as there are conflicting opinions.

The small table following Table VIII gives the number of deaths from cancer of the lungs and bronchus for the years 1950 to 1956 inclusive: this will be extended in following years in light of any information which becomes available.

Clean Food

Supervision of food premises still shows the high standard of storage, processing, and food handling.

In 8 cases of infectious diseases where food was suspected, in only one case was it proved that the food was contaminated: this food was not processed, cooked, or eaten in this neighbourhood.

Housing

During 1956, 495 houses were completed and 382 were in course of construction at the end of the year—the breakdown of these figures is:

	<i>Council Houses</i>	<i>Private Houses</i>	<i>Total</i>
Completed	172	323	495
Under construction	180	202	382
The corresponding figures for 1955 were:			
Completed	250	236	486
Under construction	190	191	381

This shows an increase of 9 completed houses over the 1955 figure.

Total of Post-War houses built by Council 2,566

Total of Post-War houses built by Private Builders 1,075

To members of the Council, Officers, and the staff of the Department, I again wish to express appreciation for their willing co-operation.

J. H. DONNELLY,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

Statistics

Registrar-General's estimate of population (mid 1956)	..	..	50,280
Area (in acres)	.. .. .	..	5,851
Rateable Value	.. .. .	..	£451,339
Sum represented by Penny Rate 1956-57	.. .. .	..	£1,892

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1956

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Live Births: Legitimate	..	..	..	..	698	360	338
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	12	4	8
					710	364	346

Birth Rate per 1,000 population	..	14.12
Area Comparability Factor	..	0.96
Standardized Birth Rate	..	13.55

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Still Births: Legitimate	..	..	..	..	17	10	7
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
					18	11	7

Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still Births)	24.73
Rate per 1,000 population (Still Births)	0.36

						<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	477	265	212
Death rate per 1,000 population				..	..	9.49		
Area Comparability Factor	..			..	..	1.25		
Standardized Death Rate				..	..	11.86		

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	..	..	..	15	..	21.13
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Births	..			15	..	21.49
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Births	..			—	..	—

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years)	..	..	..	..	1
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	89
Deaths from Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	5

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The Standardized Birth Rate of 13.55 compares with that of 12.85 for the year 1955. It is lower than the rate for England and Wales, which is 15.7.

Deaths

The standardized Death Rate of 11.86 is lower than that of 12.19 for 1955, there being fewer deaths. The death rate per 1,000 home population in England and Wales is 11.7.

The most frequent causes continue to be Heart Disease, Cancer, Intracranial Vascular Lesions, Bronchitis, and Pulmonary Tuberculosis. These categories account for 334 deaths.

Natural Increase of Population

The number of Births exceeded the number of Deaths by 233.

Infantile Mortality

The Infantile Mortality of 21.13 per 1,000 live births compares with 23.8 for England and Wales. This is lower than the figure for 1955, and is the lowest figure since 1949, which is a welcome reduction.

Maternal Mortality

One maternal death was recorded during the year.

TABLE I
INFANTILE MORTALITY

	Pre-maturity		Congenital Conditions		Broncho-Pneumonia		Asphyxia		Acute Enteritis		Uræmia		Total under 4-weeks		Total under 1-year	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1 week ..	1	5	2	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	8	3	8
1-2 weeks ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2-3 weeks ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3-4 weeks ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-2 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2-3 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3-4 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4-5 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-6 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	1
6-7 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7-8 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8-9 months ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
9-10 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-11 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11-12 months ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	1	5	2	1	1	2	—	1	1	—	1	—	3	8	6	9

TABLE II

CAUSES OF DEATH

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURN

Disease	1956		Total
	Male	Female	
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2	2	4
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	—	1
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	12	7	19
Malignant Neoplasm—Lung, Bronchus	16	—	16
Malignant Neoplasm—Breast	1	9	10
Malignant Neoplasm—Uterus	—	2	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	23	19	42
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	1	2
Diabetes	1	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	25	39	64
Coronary Disease—Angina	42	20	62
Hypertension with Heart Disease	4	3	7
Other Heart Disease	20	37	57
Other Circulatory Disease	11	5	16
Influenza	1	1	2
Pneumonia	5	4	9
Bronchitis	39	12	51
Other diseases of Respiratory System	—	—	—
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	5	2	7
Gastritis, Enteritis, and Diarrhoea	1	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	4	—	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate	5	—	5
Pregnancy—Childbirth, Abortion	—	1	1
Congenital Malformations	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	31	37	68
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	1	4
All other accidents	6	7	13
Suicide	4	—	4
Homicide and operations of War	—	—	—
All causes	265	212	477

TABLE III
NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1956

Disease	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 and over	Age Un-known	Total	1956 Rate per 1,000 pop.	1955 Rate per 1,000 pop.
Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	2	2	4	—	—	—	—	9	0.18	0.22
Whooping Cough	12	12	11	22	14	60	1	—	1	1	134	2.66	1.09
Measles	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0.02	15.34
Dysentery	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	3	0.06	0.04
Meningococcal Meningitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	0.04	0.10
Pneumonia	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	6	0.12	0.08
Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	0.02	0.02
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	0.02	0.02
Food Poisoning	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	0.08	0.04
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0.02	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1956

Diphtheria

The Table produced is extremely interesting as indicating the trend of public interest in relation to immunisation against this disease.

TABLE IV

<i>Population</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>NOTIFICATIONS</i>			<i>No. of Deaths</i>
		<i>Received</i>	<i>Confirmed</i>	<i>Not Confirmed</i>	
44,500	1944	62	48	14	4
44,410	1945	106	86	20	4
46,190	1946	34	33	1	2
47,060	1947	30	22	8	2
48,250	1948	21	17	4	1
48,490	1949	4	2	2	—
48,900	1950	5	2	3	—
48,690	1951	2	1	1	—
48,730	1952	3	1	2	—
48,970	1953	4	2	2	1
49,350	1954	—	—	—	—
49,740	1955	1	—	1	—
50,280	1956	—	—	—	—

Immunisation

Immunisation has been carried out by Doctors in the area, and routine immunisation, or re-immunisation of entrants has been carried out in the Schools, while younger children have been dealt with at Infant Welfare Centres of the County Council.

TUBERCULOSIS

Notifications

48 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were received during the year.

Deaths

Again this year a reduction in the number of deaths can be recorded: in 1956 there were 5 deaths as compared with 8 deaths during 1955.

TABLE V

	<i>MALES</i>		<i>FEMALES</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
Number of Tuberculosis cases on Register at the 1st January, 1956	262	45	229	54	590
New Notifications	28	—	18	—	46
Number restored to Register having been previously removed	—	—	—	—	—
Cases brought to notice otherwise than by formal notification	1	—	1	—	2
Number removed from Register 1956	23	1	22	1	47
Number on Register 31st December, 1956	268	44	226	53	591

AGE AND SEX OF NEW CASES, DEATHS, AND RECOVERIES FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1956

TABLE VI

Years	New Cases				Cases removed from Register due to death				Cases removed from Register due to recovery			
	Males		Females		Males		Females		Males		Females	
	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—15	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
—25	9	—	8	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	3	—
—35	4	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	2	—
—45	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	3	—
—55	6	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	1
—65	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
Over 65	5	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total	29	—	19	—	2	1	2	—	15	—	12	1

TABLE VII
TUBERCULOSIS
Notifications for the following Years:

Year	Population	Males		Females		Total
		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
1935	45,190	34	8	30	6	78
1936	45,490	34	14	18	9	75
1937	45,880	34	9	26	11	80
1938	46,360	23	8	18	4	53
1939	46,360	26	3	21	3	53
1940	44,340	29	6	19	5	59
1941	45,000	33	5	20	4	62
1942	45,000	28	3	19	3	53
1943	45,000	29	3	18	5	55
1944	44,500	24	5	31	1	61
1945	44,410	31	4	21	5	61
1946	46,190	26	4	37	7	74
1947	47,060	26	4	30	6	66
1948	48,250	21	3	25	3	52
1949	48,490	34	1	25	3	63
1950	48,900	30	2	21	2	55
1951	48,690	39	—	26	5	70
1952	48,730	26	2	22	7	57
1953	48,970	43	2	33	3	81
1954	49,350	28	3	32	2	65
1955	49,740	41	1	15	—	57
1956	50,280	29	—	19	—	48

TABLE VIIA
Deaths from Tuberculosis for each of the following years:

Year	Population	Males		Females		Total
		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
1935	45,190	11	3	19	3	36
1936	45,490	16	5	9	5	35
1937	45,880	22	2	3	4	31
1938	46,360	27	2	5	1	35
1939	46,360	—	—	—	—	31
1940	44,340	—	—	—	—	34
1941	45,000	—	—	—	—	32
1942	45,000	—	—	—	—	37
1943	45,000	—	—	—	—	39
1944	44,500	19	1	9	3	32
1945	44,410	13	1	17	2	33
1946	46,190	17	2	16	1	36
1947	47,060	9	2	17	1	29
1948	48,250	12	—	15	1	28
1949	48,490	17	5	16	3	41
1950	48,900	9	1	8	3	21
1951	48,690	15	1	8	1	25
1952	48,730	10	1	9	—	20
1953	48,970	6	1	4	2	13
1954	49,350	6	1	1	2	10
1955	49,740	3	—	5	—	8
1956	50,280	2	1	2	—	5

TABLE VIII

Deaths from Malignant Disease (Cancer)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Per cent of total Deaths</i>
1935	45,190	18	33	51	10.39
1936	45,490	30	24	54	11.38
1937	45,880	29	31	60	11.67
1938	46,360	32	39	71	14.64
1939	46,360	26	28	54	10.65
1940	44,340	35	30	65	10.36
1941	45,000	45	28	73	13.51
1942	45,000	44	25	69	14.28
1943	45,000	29	30	59	11.24
1944	44,500	41	43	84	17.00
1945	44,410	30	38	68	12.64
1946	46,190	30	32	62	12.58
1947	47,060	31	47	78	15.00
1948	48,250	41	38	79	16.99
1949	48,490	41	37	78	13.85
1950	48,900	59	30	89	15.61
1951	48,690	46	33	79	13.62
1952	48,730	41	34	75	14.76
1953	48,970	39	28	67	14.63
1954	49,350	54	30	84	17.61
1955	49,740	50	35	85	16.25
1956	50,280	52	37	89	18.65

Deaths from Cancer of the Lungs and Bronchus

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1950	48,900	10	—	10
1951	48,690	9	—	9
1952	48,730	16	1	17
1953	48,970	12	1	13
1954	49,350	15	1	16
1955	49,740	16	—	16
1956	50,280	16	—	16

TABLE IX

Deaths from Tuberculosis, Cancer and Heart and Circulatory Diseases for each of the following years:

Year	Population	Tuberculosis				Cancer				Total Cancer and Tuberculosis	Per cent of Total Deaths	Heart and Circulatory Diseases			Per cent of total Deaths	
		Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1,000 Pop.	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1,000 Pop.			Male	Female	Total		
1935	45,190	14	22	36	0.80	18	33	51	1.13	87	17.72	69	66	135	2.99	27.50
1936	45,490	21	14	35	0.77	30	24	54	1.18	89	18.43	71	68	139	3.06	28.78
1937	45,880	24	7	31	0.68	29	31	60	1.31	91	17.70	70	69	139	3.03	27.04
1938	46,360	29	6	35	0.75	32	39	71	1.53	106	21.86	66	71	137	2.96	28.25
1939	46,360	—	—	31	0.66	26	28	54	1.16	85	16.77	95	91	186	4.01	36.68
1940	44,340	—	—	34	0.77	35	30	65	1.46	99	18.64	75	81	156	3.52	29.37
1941	45,000	—	—	32	0.71	45	28	73	1.63	105	19.52	87	82	169	3.75	31.41
1942	45,000	—	—	37	0.82	44	25	69	1.53	106	21.95	72	75	147	3.27	30.43
1943	45,000	—	—	39	0.87	29	30	59	1.32	98	18.67	88	73	161	3.58	30.66
1944	44,500	20	12	32	0.72	41	43	84	1.88	116	23.48	83	67	150	3.37	30.36
1945	44,410	14	19	33	0.74	30	38	68	1.52	101	18.77	78	97	175	3.94	32.53
1946	46,190	19	17	36	0.78	30	32	62	1.34	98	19.88	75	81	156	3.38	31.64
1947	47,060	11	18	29	0.62	31	47	78	1.66	107	20.58	87	88	175	3.72	33.65
1948	48,250	12	16	28	0.58	41	38	79	1.64	107	23.01	70	75	145	3.01	31.18
1949	48,490	22	19	41	0.85	41	37	78	1.55	119	21.14	97	74	171	3.53	30.37
1950	48,900	10	11	21	0.43	59	30	89	1.82	110	19.30	116	98	214	4.38	37.54
1951	48,690	16	9	25	0.51	46	33	79	1.62	104	17.93	139	116	255	5.24	43.96
1952	48,730	11	9	20	0.41	41	34	75	1.53	95	18.70	110	94	204	4.18	40.16
1953	48,970	7	6	13	0.27	39	28	67	1.37	80	17.47	89	100	189	3.86	41.27
1954	49,350	7	3	10	0.20	54	30	84	1.70	94	19.71	102	99	201	4.07	42.14
1955	49,740	3	5	8	0.16	50	35	85	1.71	93	17.78	94	113	207	4.16	39.58
1956	50,280	3	2	5	0.10	52	37	89	1.77	94	19.71	102	104	206	4.1	43.19

Total Deaths from all Causes

1935	..	491	..	531	..	538	1951	..	580
1936	..	483	..	538	..	493	1952	..	508
1937	..	514	..	483	..	520	1953	..	458
1938	..	485	..	525	..	465	1954	..	477
1939	..	507	..	494	..	563	1955	..	523
						570	1956	..	477

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The County Council through its Area Medical Officer is responsible for the administration of the following health services:

- Health Centres
- Care of Mothers and Young Children
- Midwifery
- Health Visiting
- Home Nursing
- Prevention of illness, care and after care
- Domestic Help
- Vaccination and Immunisation
- Ambulance Service
- Mental Health Service

Close liaison between this Department and the Area Health Office was maintained.

Hospitals

Administration of Hospitals and Specialist Services is the responsibility of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

The Hospitals serving the district are as follows:

- Wordsley Hospital, Brierley Hill
- Guest Hospital, Dudley.
- Corbett Hospital, Amblecote.

Other Hospitals within easy reach are those of Birmingham and Wolverhampton.

Cases of infectious diseases are referred to Isolation Hospitals, *e.g.*, Moxley Hospital, Wednesbury. Hayley Green Hospital, Halesowen, and Stallings Lane Hospital, Kingswinford.

Maternity and Nursing Homes

There are no Nursing Homes in the area. Maternity cases are admitted to Wordsley Hospital, and to the Rosemary Ednam Maternity Home at Dudley.

Tuberculosis

Sanatoria are provided at Kinver, Groundsloew, Prestwood, and Himley. Cases of surgical tuberculosis are treated at Standon Hall and The Woodlands. Dispensaries are situated at Dudley and Wolverhampton.

Post Mortem Room

82 bodies were admitted to the Post Mortem Room during the year. The causes of death were as follows:

Natural causes	..	..	52	} 82
Asphyxia	..	..	4	
Suicide	..	..	3	
Accident	..	..	1	
Cause unknown	..	..	22	
(out of area)				

Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory Service continues to deal with the pathological and bacteriological specimens sent from this area.

The chemical analysis of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act is undertaken by the County Analyst, who acts for the Urban District.

National Assistance Act

No action was required under Section 47 of this Act which provides for compulsory removal to hospital of those unable to look after themselves.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Water Supply

The District is served by two Companies. The Stourbridge and District Water Board supply 2,516 houses at Wordsley, while the rest of the area is served by the South Staffordshire Water Board. In both cases the supply comes from deep wells and bore-holes in the new red sandstone to depths varying from 200 feet to 500 feet. The water is examined regularly and has continued to be of a high standard of purity.

The following are typical analyses:

STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT WATER BOARD

Coli Aerogenes Content (presumptive coli) after
48-hours incubation at 37 deg. Cent. .. Nil per 100 M.L.

Analysis

pH Value	..	..	..	..	..	7.4
						<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Total solid matter dried at 212 deg. F.	..					34.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	..	..				Nil
Albuminoid	..	..	..	..		Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	..	..	..	..		0.90
Chlorine present as Chloride	..	..	..	..		3.20
Oxygen absorbed in 4-hours at 80 deg. F.	..					Nil
Appearance	..	..	..	..	..	Clear and colourless
Metallic Contamination	..	..	..	..		None
Total Hardness	..	..	..	..		16.30 deg.
Permanent Hardness	..	..	..	..		9.00 deg.
Temporary Hardness	..	..	..	..		7.30 deg.

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE WATER BOARD

Coli Aerogenes Content (presumptive coli) after
48-hours incubation at 37 deg. Cent. .. Nil per 100 M.L.

Analysis

pH Value 7.2

Parts per 100,000

Total solid matter dried at 212 deg. F.	..	32.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	.. ..	Nil
Albuminoid	.. ..	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	.. ..	0.30
Chlorine present as Chloride	.. ..	3.60
Oxygen absorbed in 4-hours at 80-degs. F.	..	Nil
Appearance	.. ..	Clear and colourless
Metallic Contamination	.. ..	Nil
Total Hardness	.. ..	15.50 deg.
Permanent Hardness	.. ..	8.20 deg.
Temporary Hardness	.. ..	7.30 deg.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal

The Surveyor states that the first part of the sewer at Dawley Brook Kingswinford, and two relief sewers—one at Blewitt Street Pensnett and one at Woodland Avenue Quarry Bank—were constructed during the year.

Public Cleansing

The Chief Public Health Inspector is also the Cleansing Superintendent. A report on the work will be found in his report.

SECTION D**HOUSING**

The Architect and Housing Director has kindly supplied the following information:

During the year 172 houses have been completed, of which six were 'Unity' New Traditional.

The total of post-war dwellings completed is now as follows:

2,149 Permanent Traditional	} Total
204 Permanent New Traditional	
46 Permanent New Traditional Flats	
40 Permanent Aluminium Bungalows	
24 Temporary Aluminium Bungalows	
100 Temporary Asbestos Bungalows	} 2,566
3 Shops	

There are now 180 dwellings in course of erection.

On the housing management side of the department, 8,024 items of general repair have been executed by the Building Maintenance Staff, while 336 houses have been decorated internally and 719 painted externally as programme repairs. A further 528 houses have been decorated internally and 1,155 painted externally by contract. 166 houses have also been decorated internally following exchanges or transfer of tenancy.

SECTION E

LIVE AND DEAD MEAT INSPECTION

Two Veterinary Officers are employed by the Council to inspect live animals and carcasses at a large factory in the area.

The Chief Veterinary Surgeon reports as follows:

Once more I have the pleasure of presenting the Annual Report of the work of the Veterinary Surgeons at the local food factory.

The number of animals slaughtered and inspected was slightly less than in 1955 in the case of pigs, but the number of cattle, sheep, and calves went up during the year. The decline in the number of pigs reflects the previous year's over-production and lack of advanced planning and co-ordination by the non-technical element which seems to exert increasing control over farming in this country.

The type of animal slaughtered remains at a high standard, particularly in the case of cattle, sheep, and calves, but the lack of uniformity in pigs remains. Strict control is being constantly exercised against the entry of sub-standard animals, casualty slaughter, and its attendant danger of food poisoning. Even so, cases of contagious disease, like swine fever, were found during the year, and were dealt with as usual under the Diseases of Animals Acts and Orders.

Of the diseases found during the year, in all animals the lung diseases, e.g. pneumonia, take precedence. In pigs this high incidence is largely due to unsatisfactory housing and management, and particularly to draughty cold sleeping quarters on various pig farms up and down the country. The pig is an animal which can withstand quite a lot of hardship whilst up and about, but it does need a warm, draught-free, and well bedded sleeping pen. Unfortunately there are many "amateurs" who think that any old place will do, with excellent results as far as the production of pig pneumonia, etc., is concerned.

Second to the lung condition in pigs come "watery kidneys," or hydronephrosis, where one kidney is often changed into a mere bladder of urine, the remaining organ having to do the work of two,

Tuberculosis has ceased to be the chief interest in meat inspection in the pig, thanks to the general eradication policy going on at present.

The incidence of parasitic diseases in cattle is still high, but not so much as in 1955, owing to an improvement in the quality of the animals slaughtered, and a lessening in the number of Irish stock reared on wet pastures. As one would expect in both cattle and sheep, lung and liver parasites are responsible for the bulk of the condemnations.

As in previous years, help has been provided, when required, by the provision of samples of parasites, diseased organs, blood serum, statistical information, etc., to various teaching and research institutions both medical and veterinary, whilst a number of overseas visitors, particularly from the Dominions and the United States, have visited the veterinary department and inspected the work. The United States Military authorities have made such inspections and as a result have approved of the factory as a source of meat food for U.S. forces stationed in this country.

PIGS—(continued)

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Carcases</i>	<i>Heads</i>	<i>Lungs</i>	<i>Hearts</i>	<i>Livers</i>	<i>Stomachs</i>	<i>Spleens</i>	<i>Kidneys</i>	<i>Intestines</i>	<i>Other Parts</i>
Nephritis ..	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	22	7	—
Fascioliasis ..	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—
Swine Erysipelas ..	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	24	12	—
Jaundice ..	12	11	11	11	11	11	11	22	11	—
Gastritis ..	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—
Septicaemia ..	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	22	11	—
Emaciation & oedema ..	8	6	6	6	6	6	6	12	6	—
Bruising ..	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	6	2	4 Hindquarters
Strongylosis ..	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hepatitis ..	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Endocarditis ..	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haemangioma ..	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Swine Fever ..	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	—
Sarcoma ..	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Carcinoma ..	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Enteritis ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	—
Melanosis ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	—
Transit erythema ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Dead in lairage ..	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	48	24	—
Dead in transit ..	113	113	113	113	113	113	113	226	113	—
Totals ..	391	4700	47797	10378	22190	6399	2878	15066	10990	366 Forequarters, 113 Hindquarters, 1 Hock

TABLE X—continued

Diseases found, and meat condemned during veterinary meat inspection of

CATTLE

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Carcases</i>	<i>Heads</i>	<i>Lungs</i>	<i>Hearts</i>	<i>Livers</i>	<i>Stomachs</i>	<i>Spleens</i>	<i>Kidneys</i>	<i>Intestines</i>	<i>Other Parts</i>
Fascioliasis ..	—	—	—	—	564	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia & Pleurisy ..	—	—	101	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis ..	9	46	55	37	15	11	12	19	36	1 Forequarter, 2 Hindquarters
Cysticerciasis ..	—	22	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pericarditis ..	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—
Actinobacillosis ..	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hydatid Cysts ..	—	—	12	—	5	—	—	—	—	1 Tongue
Bacterial necrosis ..	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—
Abscesses ..	—	—	2	3	7	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis ..	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—
Peritonitis ..	—	—	—	—	13	5	9	—	9	—
Bruising ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Contamination ..	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3 Forequarters
Actinomycosis ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Carcinoma ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Glossitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Tongue
Mastitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Udder
Dead in transit ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Totals ..	11	90	177	63	619	24	23	23	47	4 Forequarters, 2 Hindquarters 2 Tongues, 1 Udder

TABLE X (continued)
Diseases, and organs condemned during veterinary meat inspection of :
S H E E P

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Carcases</i>	<i>Heads</i>	<i>Lungs</i>	<i>Hearts</i>	<i>Livers</i>	<i>Stomachs</i>	<i>Spleens</i>	<i>Kidneys</i>	<i>Intestines</i>	<i>Other Parts</i>
Fascioliasis ..	—	—	—	—	282	—	—	—	—	—
Muelleriasis ..	—	—	91	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia & Pleurisy ..	—	—	58	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peritonitis ..	1	1	1	1	10	1	1	2	1	—
Congestion ..	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	2	—	—
Hydatid Cysts ..	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Fatty Infiltration ..	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Oedema ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Septic metritis ..	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Abscesses ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1 Hindquarter
Pericarditis ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Empyæma ..	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1 Forequarter
Bruising ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jaundice ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Malformation ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Septic mastitis ..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Fractures ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Hindquarter
Contamination ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dead in transit ..	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	14	7	—
Total ..	13	14	163	15	312	12	12	28	12	1 Forequarter, 2 Hindquarters

TABLE X (continued)

Veterinary inspection of
CALVES

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Carcases</i>	<i>Heads</i>	<i>Lungs</i>	<i>Hearts</i>	<i>Livers</i>	<i>Stomachs</i>	<i>Spleens</i>	<i>Kidneys</i>	<i>Intestines</i>	<i>Other Parts</i>
Pneumonia & Pleurisy	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bruising ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Contamination ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abscess ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dead in transit ..	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	—
Total ..	3	4	15	3	4	3	3	6	3	—

POULTRY

Coccidiosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	10 carcasses
Bruising	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 carcasses

TABLE XI

The relative importance of the diseases encountered in the various species of animals, is shown in the following tables of percentages to the total number killed:

PIGS	CATTLE
Pneumonia and Pleurisy 12.0%	Fascioliasis 25.0%
Congestion 8.0%	Pneumonia and pleurisy 4.0%
Hydronephrosis 6.0%	Tuberculosis 3.0%
Pericarditis 3.0%	Cysticerciasis 1.0%
Cirrhosis 3.0%	Pericarditis 0.7%
Peritonitis 3.0%	Actinobacillosis 0.6%
Fatty Infiltration 2.0%	Hydatid Cysts 0.6%
Tuberculosis 2.0%	Bacterial necrosis 0.5%
Empyema 0.07%	Abscesses 0.5%
Hydatid Cysts 0.06%	Gastritis 0.2%
Abscesses 0.05%	Peritonitis 0.1%
Bone Fractures 0.01%	Bruising 0.1%
Pyæmia 0.01%	Contamination 0.1%
Contamination 0.01%	Actinomycosis 0.08%
Arthritis 0.01%	Cirrhosis 0.04%
Nephritis 0.008%	Carcinoma 0.04%
Fascioliasis 0.007%	Glossitis 0.04%
Swine erysipelas 0.005%	Mastitis 0.04%
Jaundice 0.005%	
Gastritis 0.005%	Dead in transit 0.1%
Septicæmia 0.004%	
Emaciation and dropsy 0.003%	
Bruising 0.003%	
Strongylosis 0.002%	
Hepatitis 0.001%	
Endocarditis 0.001%	
Haemangiomata 0.001%	
Swine Fever 0.001%	
Sarcomata 0.0008%	
Carcinamata 0.0008%	
Enteritis 0.0008%	
Melanosis 0.0004%	
Transit erythema 0.0004%	
Dead in lairage 0.01%	
Dead in transit 0.04%	

Percentage of disease found in:

SHEEP	CALVES
Fascioliasis 4.0%	Pneumonia and Pleurisy 3.0%
Muelliariasis 1.0%	Bruising 0.3%
Pneumonia and Pleurisy 1.0%	Contamination 0.3%
Peritonitis 0.2%	Abscesses 0.3%
Congestion 0.1%	Dead in transit 1.0%
Hydatid Cysts 0.08%	
Fatty Infiltration .. 0.06%	
Oedema 0.04%	
Septic metritis 0.04%	
Abscesses 0.04%	
Pericarditis 0.02%	
Empyaema 0.02%	
Bruising 0.02%	
Jaundice 0.02%	
Malformation 0.02%	
Septic Mastitis 0.02%	
Fractures 0.02%	
Contamination 0.02%	
Dead in transit 0.04%	

TABLE XII

The following table shows the diseases, and number of animals on which post-mortem examination was held following natural death in transit to the abattoir, or on arrival at the lairages:

<i>Cause of death</i>	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Syncope	—	—	1	63	64
Pneumonia and Pleurisy ..	—	—	1	48	49
Internal haemorrhage ..	—	—	1	13	14
Pleural empyaema	—	—	—	1	1
Peritonitis	—	—	—	1	1
Bruising & haemorrhage (dogs)	—	—	1	—	1
Enteritis	—	—	—	2	2
Fractures	—	—	—	2	2
Congested liver	—	—	—	1	1
Impaction and toxæmia ..	—	—	3	2	5
Brucellosis	—	2	—	—	2
Anaemia, acute	—	—	—	1	1
Swine Fever	—	—	—	1	1
Swine erysipelas	—	—	—	1	1
Pericarditis	—	—	—	1	1
Septicaemia	1	1	—	—	2
Total	1	3	7	137	148

TABLE XIII

Table showing the total weight of the meat condemned during veterinary inspection for the year:

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Ozs.</i>
Home killed cattle	10	2	—	25	—
calves	—	—	2	11	8
sheep	—	13	3	10	3
pigs	144	4	3	10	—
Total	155	1	2	—	11

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

This report for the year 1956 is in the nature of a caretaker report on a year bedevilled by staffing difficulties which added to the inevitable dislocation caused by the absence of Mr. H. J. Parker from April onwards due to ill health.

For several months, including the holiday period, the qualified staff consisted of one inspector and myself. That the day-to-day meat inspection, complaints, etc. which always arise were dealt with reasonably satisfactorily is a measure of the assistance given to me by Mr. Grayshon, the student inspectors, the clerical staff and the Cleansing Department Foreman. That much routine work remained untouched must be regretfully admitted.

I have to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their confidence and support during the year. I am grateful also for the co-operation and assistance I received from all other Departments.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Complaints

517 complaints were received as compared with 565 in 1955. 252 of these concerned drain stoppages, which were promptly dealt with by a workman from this Department. No charge is made for this service.

Drain stoppages	252
General defects to houses	184
Industrial nuisances, noise, etc.	6
Accumulations	13
Offensive odours	24
Overcrowding	2
Insect infestation	8
Roadside caravan dwellers	3
Pigkeeping	4
Smoke nuisances	6
Miscellaneous	15

Action taken—

Informal Notices	374
--------------------------	-----

Statutory Notices

Section 39	1
Section 45	11
Section 93	40

In one case work was carried out in default under Section 39 at a cost of £6 17s. 6d.

Atmospheric Pollution

Complaints were received from the occupants of a group of houses near a newly extended iron foundry. Dust emissions and noise nuisance from a new fettling shop were alleged. The Company concerned were most co-operative and spent considerable sums of money on dust collection equipment. The noise element was rather more difficult due to the light construction of the new building, but it was finally dealt with by fitting silencers to the exhaust fans of the dust collectors.

In January, severe fog was experienced for two days, and the opportunity was taken to record the sulphur dioxide and smoke content of the fog. It was found that there was seven times as much sulphur dioxide and ten times as much smoke as compared with normal readings. This emphasises, if necessary, the need to enforce the Clean Air Act, 1956.

Normal recordings of sulphur dioxide and smoke are shown in Tables I and II.

Plans

Many plans for new factories were examined and representations made with a view to ensuring smokeless installations.

Water Supplies

Samples of the water supply from the public mains were submitted for analysis as follows :

	<i>Chemical</i>	<i>Bacteriological</i>
The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company	3	6
Stourbridge & District Water Board ..	3	3
Kingfisher Camping Site (private bore-hole)	4	53
Wordsley Hospital	5	6

Use of the Kingfisher borehole was discontinued during the year.

Sewage Effluent

Two chemical samples submitted from the Council's Sewage Farm were reported as being satisfactory.

Infectious Disease Prevention

116 visits were made to cases of Infectious Disease; 22 houses were disinfected.

3 houses were sprayed for the elimination of bed bugs, 8 for fleas and 17 for cockroaches, ants, etc.

Moveable Dwellings

Licences granted during the year were as follows:

	<i>Licences</i>	<i>Number of Caravans</i>
Kingfisher Camping Site, Wallheath	1	150
11, Mount Pleasant, Kingswinford	1	1
112, Mount Pleasant, Kingswinford	1	1
17, Rose Hill, Quarry Bank	1	1
Woods Lane, Quarry Bank	1	12
6, Dunns Bank, Quarry Bank	1	1
"May View," Thorns Road, Quarry Bank	2	2
"The Woodlands," Cot Lane, Wordsley	1	1
8, Turk Street, Brierley Hill	1	1
Rear Tansey Green Farm, Pensnett	1	1
Plantation, Pensnett	1	1
Poplars Dairy, Brierley Hill Road, Wordsley	1	1
84, Cot Lane, Kingswinford	1	1

TABLE I
LEAD PEROXIDE SO₂ RECORDERS
Results as Mg. of SO₃/Day collected by 100 sq. cm.

1956	<i>Station Number</i>					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
January	2.07	1.74	1.98	2.07	1.80	2.66
February	2.02	1.07	1.18	1.98	1.63	—
March	2.18	1.90	1.84	1.90	1.83	2.87
April	1.50	1.42	1.83	1.83	1.72	2.21
May	1.76	1.04	1.05	1.13	0.68	1.49
June	1.46	1.22	0.93	1.03	0.57	0.97
July	0.39	0.68	0.94	0.59	0.70	0.39
August	1.77	0.91	1.04	0.77	0.70	1.40
September	1.69	0.95	1.08	1.13	1.06	2.05
October	2.26	1.22	1.71	1.72	1.21	1.92
November	3.02	1.56	2.21	2.13	1.47	2.59
December	2.33	1.76	1.81	1.92	2.37	1.39
Yearly Average:						
1956	1.85	1.29	1.47	1.51	1.31	1.81
1955	1.96	1.26	1.58	1.79	2.10	1.54

TABLE II

**CONCENTRATION OF SMOKE AND SULPHUR DIOXIDE
BY VOLUMETRIC APPARATUS**

Smoke expressed as milligrams per 100 cubic metres.

Sulphur Dioxide expressed as parts per 100 million parts of air.

1956	<i>Smoke</i>		<i>Sulphur Dioxide</i>	
	<i>Monthly Average</i>	<i>Highest Daily Average</i>	<i>Monthly Average</i>	<i>Highest Daily Average</i>
January	28.2	121.0	7.4	27.3
February	28.1	65.4	9.6	25.8
March	18.3	30.4	5.6	10.5
April	25.9	42.0	6.3	12.4
May	11.5	22.7	3.3	7.6
June	9.4	16.1	1.9	2.8
July	9.0	20.6	2.1	8.0
August	21.1	51.0	2.0	6.5
September	11.7	17.7	3.6	12.6
October	19.7	31.5	4.8	12.1
November	27.3	108.3	10.2	48.4
December	20.4	72.2	7.4	42.2
Yearly Average				
1956	19.2	—	5.3	—
1955	15.5	—	4.6	—

HOUSING

The Public Inquiries which preceeded the confirmation of the Compulsory Purchase Orders in respect of houses at Church Street, Pensnett, Wallows Street, Brierley Hill, Mullett Street, Bromley and Sheffield Street, Quarry Bank were held during the year. 159 houses were involved and the Orders were confirmed without variation.

Turning to rehousing, less progress has been made due to the cancellation of the 20% allocation of new houses, although towards the end of the year, 33 new houses built for slum clearance became available. In all, 124 persons were rehoused from 35 unfit houses into 36 Council owned houses.

Full details of action taken under the Housing Act since 1930 are to be found in Table III.

DETAILS OF THE YEAR'S WORK

Housing Act, 1936

Section 9

Work was carried out in default under this Section at:

3, Bell Street, Pensnett Cost £29 15s. 0d.

Section 11 (Demolition Orders)

55 houses were represented as being unfit and 49 Demolition Orders were made on the following:

BRIERLEY HILL

70 and 72, Dudley Road.
246 and 248, Moor Street.
15, Turk Street.
98, 99, 112, 113, 118 and 119, Wallows Street.
74 and 75, Wallows Street.

PENSNETT

30 and 30A, Fens Cottages, Commonside.
15, Dreadnought Road

WORDSLEY

1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, Belle Vue.
19, 21, 23 and 25, Brierley Hill Road.
88 and 89, Lawnswood Road.

QUARRY BANK

1, 2, 3 and 4, Church Street.
11, Maughan Street.
84, 86, 88, 90 and 92, Mount Pleasant.
1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 7A, 15, 16 and 16A, Oak Street.
66 and 68, Sheffield Street.

An Undertaking not to use for human habitation was accepted in respect of—Stores, Kingfisher Caravan Site, Heath Brook, Wallheath.

The remaining five houses were dealt with by making Closing Orders under Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 in lieu of Demolition Orders.

58, Dock Road, Wordsley.
9, Mount Pleasant, Kingswinford.
33, Level Street, Brierley Hill.
31 and 33, Moor Street, Brierley Hill.

The Council accepted proposals to reconstruct back to back houses, and the work was satisfactorily completed during the year.

113, Commonside, Pensnett—Closing Order determined.
15, Broad Street, Pensnett—Undertaking cancelled.

TABLE III
HOUSING ACTS
SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN 1930—1956

Year	Section 11		Sec's 10 & 12	Clearance Areas No. of Houses	Informal Action No. of Houses	Total	Houses Closed Section 10, 11 & 12	Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
	Demolition Orders	Under- takings							
*1930—1933 ..	143	14	15	54	18	244	12	129	767
1934 ..	50	4	1	10	10	75	1	89	270
1935 ..	266	21	60	60	6	413	39	53	719
1936 ..	281	29	47	142	6	505	39	262	1536
1937 ..	200	15	9	119	4	347	9	358	2053
1938 ..	143	38	6	235	1	423	28	479	1825
1939 ..	74	11	—	—	—	85	6	228	484
1940—1947 ..	8	7	1	—	2	18	8	88	133
1948 ..	4	3	—	—	—	7	3	49	137
1949 ..	12	4	—	—	—	16	4	23	91
1950 ..	31	—	—	—	—	31	—	13	176
1951 ..	22	—	3	—	—	25	3	56	158
1952 ..	67	—	1	—	5	73	—	54	193
1953 ..	25	2	—	17	8	52	—	75	294
1954 ..	64	8	7	16	2	97	13	64	317
1955 ..	64	3	10	159	15	251	12	84	179
1956 ..	49	1	5	—	1	56	8	21	128
	1503	160	165	812	78	2718	185	2125	9460

* Prior to Amalgamation.

Overcrowding

At the end of 1956 there were 31 known cases of statutory overerowing, as set out in the following table:

	<i>Council Houses</i>	<i>Private Houses</i>	<i>Total</i>
At 31st December, 1955	9	21	30
New cases	5	1	6
	14	22	36
Cases abated	1	4	5
Total cases at 31st December, 1956	12	18	31

The following table shows that there were 44 known cases of sex overcrowding at the end of 1956:

	<i>One Bedroom Houses</i>	<i>Two Bedroom Houses</i>	<i>Total</i>
At 31st December, 1955	8	43	51
New cases	3	2	5
	11	45	56
Cases abated	1	11	12
Total cases at 31st December, 1956	10	34	44

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954

One application for a Certificate under this Act was granted.

Housing Act, 1949

Improvement Grants

29 applications were considered by the Committee; 27 were approved, 1 refused and 1 deferred. The value, after deducting items of repair not ranking for grant, was £9,584. 23 of the houses were owner occupied.

In spite of the Council's expressed policy of encouraging the modernising of houses by making grants, less interest was shown by house owners.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Composition and labelling of Food and Drugs

During the year, 176 samples were taken, the following is a summary of articles of Food and Drugs submitted to the Public Analyst and the results of the analyses.

<i>Article Analysed</i>	<i>Total Samples</i>		<i>Genuine</i>		<i>Non-Genuine</i>	
	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>
Almonds, Ground	—	1	—	1	—	—
Aspirin Tablets	—	1	—	1	—	—
Bicarbonate of Soda	—	1	—	1	—	—
Beetroot, sliced	—	1	—	1	—	—
Bronchial Mixture	—	1	—	1	—	—
Butter	—	2	—	2	—	—
Butter, Peanut	—	1	—	1	—	—
Butterscotch	—	1	—	1	—	—
Butter Fruits	—	1	—	—	—	1
Butter Toffee	1	—	1	—	—	—
Butter Mints	—	1	—	1	—	—
Buttered Brazils	—	1	—	1	—	—
Buttered Coconut Macaroons	—	1	—	1	—	—
Bacon	—	2	—	2	—	—
Cake Mixture	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cherries, red	—	1	—	1	—	—
Chest Tonic	—	1	—	1	—	—
Chewing Gum	—	1	—	1	—	—
Chocolate Laxative	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cooking Fat	—	1	—	1	—	—
Complete Cake Mixture	—	1	—	—	—	1
Chop Sauce	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cheese Flavoured Crisps	—	1	—	—	—	1
Chilblain Tablets	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cold Capsules	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cod Liver Oil Capsules	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cream, whipping	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cream, table	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cream, sterilised	—	1	—	1	—	—
Cut Peel, mixed	—	1	—	1	—	—
Dairy Butter Mints	—	1	—	1	—	—
Epsom Salts	—	1	—	1	—	—
Farm House Cookies	—	1	—	1	—	—
Fish Dressing	—	1	—	—	—	1
Flour, self-raising	—	1	—	1	—	—
Flour, plain	—	1	—	1	—	—
Flour, sweetened, cake	—	1	—	—	—	1
Glycerine, Lemon & Honey	—	1	—	1	—	—
Glucose Tablets	—	2	—	2	—	—
Golden Raising Powder	—	1	—	1	—	—
Halibut Liver Oil Capsules	—	1	—	1	—	—
Horse Radish Relish	—	1	—	1	—	—
	1	44	1	39	—	5

Summary of Articles of Food and Drugs submitted to the Public Analyst and the Results of the Analyses—continued

<i>Article Analysed</i>	<i>Total Samples</i>		<i>Genuine</i>		<i>Non-Genuine</i>	
	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>
	1	44	1	39	—	5
Ice Cream	—	8	—	8	—	—
Ice Lollies	—	1	—	—	—	1
Instant Whip	—	1	—	1	—	—
Lard	—	1	—	1	—	—
Lemon Curd	—	3	—	3	—	—
Lemon Juice	—	1	—	1	—	—
Liquid Paraffin	—	1	—	1	—	—
Margarine	—	1	—	1	—	—
Margarine Pastry	—	1	—	1	—	—
Merry Kreem Cup	—	1	—	—	—	1
Milk	28	32	26	31	2	1
Milk Chocolate Eggs	—	1	—	1	—	—
Mustard	—	1	—	1	—	—
Minced Beef Loaf	—	1	—	1	—	—
Malt Drops	—	1	—	1	—	—
Marzipan	—	1	—	1	—	—
Mince Meat	—	1	—	1	—	—
Minerals	—	5	—	4	—	1
Oranges, spanish	—	1	—	1	—	—
Orange Squash	—	1	—	1	—	—
Orange Crush	—	1	—	1	—	—
Orange Flavour Emulsion	—	1	—	1	—	—
Orangeade	—	1	—	1	—	—
Orange Flavour Lollie Base	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pears in Syrup	—	2	—	2	—	—
Pineapple Flavour Sweetened Compound	—	1	—	1	—	—
Pepper Ground	—	1	—	1	—	—
Plums, red	—	1	—	1	—	—
Pudding, Christmas	—	1	—	1	—	—
Rhubarb, tinned	—	1	—	1	—	—
Salmon Spread	—	1	—	1	—	—
Sauce	—	1	—	1	—	—
Sausage Pork cont. pres.	—	4	—	4	—	—
Sausage Meat cont. pres.	—	1	—	1	—	—
Sausage Meat Beef cont. pres.	—	1	—	1	—	—
Soups	—	4	—	2	—	2
Suncrush Lemon	—	1	—	1	—	—
Steak and Kidney Pie	—	2	—	2	—	—
Supervite Capsules	—	1	—	1	—	—
Stewed Steak	—	1	—	1	—	—
Tomato Juice	—	2	—	—	—	2
Tomato Paste	—	1	—	—	—	1
Tomato Ketchup	—	1	—	1	—	—
Tomatoes, peeled	—	1	—	1	—	—
Vinegar, malt	—	3	—	3	—	—
Vitamin B1 Tablets	—	1	—	1	—	—
Vitamin and Mineral Capsules	—	2	—	2	—	—
	29	147	27	132	2	15

The Analyst reported adversely on seventeen samples as follows:

<i>Action taken</i>	
Sweetened Cake Flour—Informal	Manufacturer admitted error in mixing.
Milk T.T.—Formal 5% deficient in fat.	} Due to natural causes at farm.
Milk T.T.—Formal 3.3% deficient in fat and 0.8% deficient in solids-not-fat	
Cheese Flavoured Crisps—Informal Ingredients should include Cheese or Flavouring	Label amended.
Complete Cake Mix—Informal Incorrectly labelled.	Label amended.
Ice Lollie—Informal Incorrectly labelled— ingredients labelled in wrong order.	Label amended.
Milk Pasteurised—Informal 11.7% deficient in fat.	Repeat samples satisfactory.
Orange Flavoured Lollie Base— Informal Contained saccharine— not in list of ingredients.	Agreed to amend label.
Fish Dressing—Informal Labelled with unknown substance “Dess.”	Manufacturer agreed to delete “Dess.”
Sparkling Orange—Informal Contained 0.5 parts per million of lead.	Alteration to plant eliminated contamination.
Merry Kreem Cup—Informal Does not contain cream or imitation cream.	Display cards amended.
Buttered Fruits—Informal 20% deficient of butter fat.	Manufacturers to improve method of mixing to avoid uneven distribu- tion of butter fat.

Action taken

Meat Soup—Informal Contained an excessive amount of tin	}
Tomato Juice—Informal Contained an excessive amount of tin	
Tomato Paste—Informal Contained an excessive amount of tin	
Tomato Juice—Informal Contained an excessive amount of tin	
Vegetable Soup—Informal Contained an excessive amount of tin	

Representative samples—old stock
surrendered for destruction.

Slaughterhouses

In spite of staff shortages, meat inspection was given the usual priority, and all animals slaughtered were inspected before removal for sale in the shops. The co-operation of the local butchers in allowing extra time so that this could be done must be put on record.

TABLE IV

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed	693	105	89	4,777	9,789
Number inspected	693	105	89	4,777	9,789
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned . .	—	—	1	3	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	31	10	—	52	407
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	4.47	9.52	1.12	1.15	4.23
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned . .	1	1	—	—	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	35	10	—	—	281
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis . .	5.19	10.48	—	—	2.90

Total weight of meat condemned 4-tons. 5-cwts. 2-qtr. 15-lbs.

Other Foods condemned

Apricots (Tins)	10
Bacon (lbs.)	2
Beans in Tomato (Tins)	27
Beef Corned, etc. (Tinned) (lbs.)	163
Carrots (Tins)	17
Cheese (lbs.)	138
Currie Powder (Pkts.)	14
Cream (Tins)	7
Crab Paste (Tins)	60
Cheese Spread (Pkts.)	4
Fish, various (Tins)	8
Fruit Salad (Tins)	15
Gravy Browning (Bottles)	50
Grapefruit (Tins)	2
Ham (Tinned)	67
Meat (various) (Tins)	89
Milk (Tins)	90
Mincedmeat	10
Peas (Tins)	263
Peaches (Tins)	30
Pears (Tins)	29
Oranges (Tins)	15
Pineapple (Tins)	34
Plums (Tins)	22
Puddings (Tins)	32
Soups	125
Spaghetti (Tins)	4
Strawberries (Tins)	10
Tomatoes (Tins)	476
Tomato Paste	52
Tongue (Tinned)	67
Vegetable Salad	4
Vegetables, Mixed (Tins)	11

MILK

There are 2 retail registered dairies and 3 retail milk purveyors within, and 9 dairymen with premises outside the District retailing milk in this area.

One dairy was equipped and licensed during the year for the processing of milk for sale as sterilised bottled milk.

As the Urban District is a Specified Area all milk sold is either tuberculin tested, pasteurised, or sterilised.

Licences were issued as follows:

MILK (Special Designation) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Tuberculin Tested—

Supplementary Licences	3
Dealer's Licences	1

MILK (Special Designation) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949-1953

Pasteurised—

Supplementary Licences	7
Dealer's Licences	5

Sterilised—

Supplementary Licences	9
Dealer's Licences	4
Retailing Shopkeepers	186
Dealer's (Steriliser's) Licence	1

One producer retailer licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food sells bottled T.T. milk in the area.

Samples are taken regularly to see that the milk conforms to the tests specified in the Regulations. If any milk fails to pass the test the matter is investigated and corrected.

Milk produced at the 9 farms in the area is sampled for biological examination for the presence of tuberculosis infection.

Table V gives details of all milk samples taken.

TABLE V
MILK SAMPLING RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION, 1956

Designation under which sold	Total No. of Samples		Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Phenol- phthalein Test		Turbidity Test		Tuberculosis Test	
	Bact.	Biol.	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail	Neg.	Pos.
T.T. Past	27	—	27	—	27	—	27	—	—	—	—	—
Pasteurised	115	—	103	12	115	—	115	—	—	—	—	—
Sterilised	36	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36	—	—	—
T.T. (Raw)	8	1	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Accredited	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ungraded	11	11	8	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—
TOTAL	197	12	143	18	142	—	142	—	36	—	12	—

Food Hygiene

There are 602 premises where food is handled. They comprise:

- 389 Shops
- 15 Cafes.
- 35 Canteens.
- 163 Licensed Premises.

The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 came into force in January. A circular was sent out to the owners of all food businesses giving a brief summary of the requirements. Towards the end of the year, a detailed inspection of all premises was commenced with a view to informing owners of any works or alterations necessary. This work will take a considerable time to complete.

Routine sampling of ice cream, lollies and imitation cream was continued, although lack of time caused a reduction in the number of samples taken.

Ice Cream

78 Samples were submitted for the Methylene Blue Test, the results were as follows:

	<i>Type of Mix</i>	<i>No. of Samples Submitted</i>	<i>GRADES</i>			
			1	2	3	4
Produced within the Urban District	Heat Treated	21	18	2	1	—
	Complete Cold	6	6	—	—	—
Produced outside	Heat Treated	51	44	2	2	3
TOTAL		78	68	4	3	3

Ice Lollies

50 samples were submitted for examination. The results are as detailed below:

<i>No. of Samples Submitted</i>	<i>PLATE COUNT PER C.C.</i>				<i>B. COLI CONTENT</i>	
	<i>Sterile</i>	<i>Under 100</i>	<i>100 to 1,000</i>	<i>Over 1,000</i>	<i>Nil in 0.3 c.c.</i>	<i>Present in 0.3 c.c.</i>
50	3	44	3	—	50	—

Synthetic Cream

22 samples were submitted for examination, all proved free from pathogenic organisms.

Section 16

This Section requires all ice-cream premises and all premises where the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food is carried on to be registered. The Council have power to cancel or refuse registration of unsuitable premises.

There are 202 premises on the register, including one new sausage room.

Ice-cream factories.	..	..	..	..	..	5
Ice-cream shops.	..	..	..	..	..	158
Sausage, etc., factories.	..	..	..	..	..	15
Fish friers.	..	..	..	..	..	24

Section 34

5 premises are registered for carrying on the business of wholesale dealers in margarine.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number in Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>	
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
Factories—			
With Mechanical Power	267	45	Nil
Without Mechanical Power	13	4	Nil
Total	280	49	Nil

It is still necessary to comment that defects occurred largely in new factories in spite of representations made to the builders at the time plans were submitted. This is rather inexcusable, and the correcting of the defects is a time consuming task for the inspectors who have so much other work on their hands. It is also often an expensive matter for the factory occupiers.

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of Defects</i>				<i>Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were Instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>Referred by H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of cleanliness	—	1	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:					
Insufficient	2	2	—	1	—
Unsuitable or defective ..	12	20	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	2	7	—	—	—
Total	16	30	—	1	—

5 Outworkers lists were received notifying 12 Outworkers.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The extermination of rats and mice is provided as a free service to all householders, and 279 houses were inspected, of these 186 were treated for minor infestations.

Business premises were given regular quarterly attention; of 120 premises visited by the operative, 94 were treated—there were no major infestations. Income for this work was £271.

Full details of the work are as set out in the annual return to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY			
	<i>Non-Agricultural</i>			
	<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)</i>	<i>All Other (including Business Premises)</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number of properties in Local Authority's District	10	15,038	1,846	16,894
Number of properties inspected as a result of:				
Notification	—	224	—	224
Survey	5	16	120	141
Otherwise	—	39	700	739
Total inspections carried out including re-inspection	18	307	1069	1,394
Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:				
Rats—Minor	5	164	88	257
Mice—Minor	—	22	6	28
Number of infested properties treated by the L.A.	5	186	94	285
Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	18	214	319	551

Assistance was given to Amblecote U.D.C. when requested.

Sewers

77 manholes were test baited in various parts of the district, and 3 'takes' were recorded. These were treated in accordance with the recommendations of the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933—1954

1 new application was received during the year, making a total of 49 licenced slaughtermen in the District.

SHOPS ACT

Details of the shop premises on the register are as follows:

Food Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	389
Cafes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Other Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	226
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	163

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Licences were issued in respect of 4 premises which, upon inspection, were found to be suitable.

PETROLEUM ACT

123 Premises are licenced to store petroleum spirit in the area, the total amount licenced being 115,093 gallons. Licence fees amounted to £78 0s. 0d.

2 licences covering the storage of 4 tons Calcium Carbide were issued; the fees amounted to £1 5s. 0d.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Two premises are registered under this Act.

C. H. CRAWFORD,

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, 1956

							<i>Re- Inspections</i>	<i>Inspections</i>
Housing Act								
Repairs (Sec. 9)	..	..	..	..	..	—		12
Demolition (Sec. 11)	..	..	..	..	..	90		446
Closing (Sec. 12)	..	..	..	..	..	—		1
Clearance Areas	..	..	..	..	..	144		255
Other Visits	..	..	..	..	..	53		4
Improvement Grants	..	..	..	..	..	78		311
Public Health Act								
Houses	..	..	..	..	..	402		1745
Council Houses	..	..	..	..	..	16		4
Overcrowding	..	..	..	..	..	5		2
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	..	14		113
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	7		3
Camping Sites, Licensed	..	..	..	..	..	31		8
Cinemas	..	..	..	..	..	7		3
Rivers Pollution	..	..	..	..	..	2		1
Smoke Abatement—								
Observations and Premises visited	..	..				63		6
Atmospheric Pollution Readings	..	..				300		—
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	10		55
Drainage (Inspections)	..	..	..	..	..	69		29
Drainage Tests	..	..	..	..	..	17		3
Cesspools	..	..	..	..	..	10		8
Sewers and Street Gullies	..	..	..	..	..	7		—
Ashes Accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	4		1
Accumulations	..	..	..	..	..	5		1
Disinfestation	..	..	..	..	..	8		—
Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	116		6
Swimming Pool	..	..	..	..	..	5		5
Offensive Trades	..	..	..	..	..	3		1
Factory Act								
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	49		105
Bake-houses	..	..	..	..	..	11		8
Outworkers	..	..	..	..	..	16		2
Food and Drugs Act								
Market, Food Premises including Ice Cream								
Retailers and Food Hygiene Regs.	..	..				1020		612
Food Preparing Premises	..	..	..	..	..	70		12
Fish Fryers	..	..	..	..	..	17		24
Ice-Cream Manufacturers	..	..	..	..	..	6		4
Milk and Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	44		7
Food Vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	7		1

							<i>Re- Inspections Inspections</i>
Bye-Laws							
Tents, Vans and Sheds	..	..	..	..	60	48	
Piggeries	..	..	..	..	11	8	
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	1414	--	
Shops Act	..	..	..	..	55	16	
Pet Animals Act, 1951	..	..	..	..	5	1	
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951	..				--	—	
Petroleum Act	..	..	..	..	23	21	
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949				..	39	7	
Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc. on Property				..	416	—	

Sanitary Improvements carried out as a result of Inspections made and Notices served (Work actually carried out)

Dwelling Houses

Roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	88
House brickwork repointed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Chimney stacks repointed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Chimney pots provided or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Defective brickwork of walls rebuilt	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rainwater spouting repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Damp-proof courses provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Walls and ceilings cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Plasterwork repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	90
Firegrates repaired or provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Windows repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Sash cords renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
Top sashes of windows hung	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Windows made to open	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Living room floors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Bedroom floors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Stairs repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Verandahs repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Doors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10

Wash-houses, Water Closets, etc.

Wash-house roofs repaired	27
Wash-house doors repaired or renewed	1
Wash-house chimneys repointed or rebuilt	1
Wash-house windows repaired or renewed	1
Wash-house walls rebuilt	3
Wash-house doors repaired	1
Repairs to sink brickwork, etc.	2
Water supply provided to sinks	10
Washing boiler provided or repaired	2
Brickwork of washing boiler repaired	1
Rainwater spouting provided or repaired	6
Water Closet brickwork repointed or repaired	8
Water Closet roofs repaired	20
New Water Closets provided	1
Water Closet pans provided	9
Water Closet seats renewed	9
Water Closet flush cisterns repaired or renewed	45
Leaking Water Closet joints repaired	62
Miscellaneous	11

Drainage

Obstructed drains cleared	21
Drains repaired or reconstructed	9
Inspection chambers provided	2
New covers provided to inspection chambers	7
Waste pipes repaired	3
Miscellaneous	1

Food Premises

Sterilizing sink provided	1
Screens provided	12
Cleansing and redecoration	27
Hot water facilities provided	3
Raising of outside display	9
Wash basins provided	2
Miscellaneous	17

Shops Act

Forms required to be exhibited	21
Hot water supply provided	2
Redecoration	9

Licensed Premises

Sanitary accommodation limewashed	..	..	..	..	..	8
Sanitary accommodation screened	..	..	..	..	..	3
W.C.s' repaired	..	..	..	..	..	5
Hot Water provided	..	..	..	..	..	5
Bar Sinks renewed	..	..	..	..	..	4
Cellar Floors repaired	..	..	..	..	..	3
Cellars limewashed	..	..	..	..	..	6
General repairs	..	..	..	..	..	2
Premises redecorated	..	..	..	..	..	14
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	6

Factories and Workshops

Artificial lighting provided	..	..	..	..	..	2
Factories and Workshops limewashed	..	..	..	..	..	1
New sanitary accommodation built	..	..	..	..	..	2
Water Closets or Urinals limewashed	..	..	..	..	..	7
Water Closets repaired	..	..	..	..	..	11
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	7

Other Nuisances

Caravans removed	..	..	..	..	..	7
Accumulations of manure and other refuse removed	..	..	..	..	..	6
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	1

Petroleum Act

Notices required to be exhibited	..	..	..	..	..	2
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PUBLIC CLEANSING

This section of the Report relates to the year ended 31st March, 1957.

Staff

Foreman	1
Male Employees	45
Female Employees	9

These are employed as follows:

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Refuse Collection	23	—
Refuse Disposal	2	—
Salvage	3	9
Street Cleansing	11	—
Gullies and Cesspools	2	—
Depots, Drains, Public Conveniences		
Rodent Control	4	—

The number of working days lost by all employees, through sickness or injuries was 579 an increase of 57 days compared with the previous year.

Vehicles

The vehicles available to the Department are listed below.

- 3 S. & D. Freighters (16-18 cubic yards)
- 2 S. & D. Freighters (11 cubic yards)
- 1 S. & D. Gully Emptyer
- 1 Cesspool Emptyer
- 1 Morris Commercial
- 4 Morris Vans
- 2 Ford Vans
- 2 Lewin Roadsweeper Collectors
- 1 Bedford Lacre Mechanical Sweeper
- 1 Austin Van
- 1 Bulldozer
- 1 Bray Hydra-Loader

Refuse Collection

The weekly collection of house refuse continued throughout the year, except for two weeks when the service was suspended for annual holidays. It is pleasing to report that there was no change in the personnel employed; a very satisfactory position. It is true that the incentive bonus payments which were introduced in October, 1950 have increased over the year to between 30/- and

£2 per week, thereby giving the pay packets a substantial uplift. It should be emphasized however, that the increase in wages is solely due to increased output per man.

The weight of house and trade refuse collected was 12,655 tons.

Disposal

Refuse disposal at the Leys is by controlled tipping, material is readily available on the site to ensure proper covering. A small bulldozer deals with the loads of refuse, and a Bray Hydraloader is used for covering the tip.

Women are employed sorting salvageable materials from the refuse.

Disposal Ground—

House Refuse	..	..	..	..	12,004	
Trade	..	..	..	..	651	
						12,655
Road Sweepings	..	..	..	..		1,623
						14,278 Tons

Dustbin Provision

In May, 1950 the Council decided to provide dustbins to domestic premises, the cost being borne by the refuse collection service.

The total number of bins provided to 31st March, 1957, is as follows:

Houses privately owned	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,931
Houses council owned	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,049
							14,980

Waste Paper

The tonnage of waste paper despatched to the Mills was 609-tons, value £4,775 as compared with 658-tons, value £5,414 for the previous year. This reduction was solely due to the quota system introduced by the Mills in July for in order to conform to the 50-tons per month, it was necessary to curtail the service by the withdrawal of one van for 3 days per week. This is unfortunate as it will inevitably cause inconvenience to householders who have for many years co-operated with the department by saving their waste paper for collection at frequent intervals.

General

The total income for the year was £6,385 and 846 tons of salvaged material was returned to industry. 203 tons of tins were extracted from refuse at the disposal ground; these were press baled and sold for £1469.

Salvage Income	Tons	£
Paper	609	4,775
Baled Tins	203	1469
Metals	22	106
Miscellaneous	12	35
	846	£6,385

COST STATEMENT TO THE 31st MARCH, 1957

Collection and Disposal of House and Trade Refuse, Kitchen Waste and Salvage

Particulars	Collection	Disposal	Total
Revenue Account—			
Gross Expenditure—	£	£	£
Labour	11204	3144	14348
Transport	7030	4160	11190
Plant, equipment, land and buildings*	5269	853	6122
Other items	—	—	—
Total	23503	8157	31660
Gross Income	313	6569	6882
Net Cost	23190	1588	24778
Unit Costs—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Gross cost per ton—labour only ..	16 10	4 9	21 7
Gross cost per ton—transport only ..	10 7	6 3	16 10
Net cost per ton*	35 0	2 4	37 4
	£	£	£
Net cost per 1,000 population* ..	461	31	492
Net cost per 1,000 premises* ..	1446	99	1545

* The cost of providing ashbins, *i.e.* £3,884 is included in Plant, etc., and represents 6s. 2d. per ton, £77 per 1,000 population and £242 per 1,000 premises of the Net Unit Costs.

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Area	5,851 acres
Population at 30th June, 1956	50,280
Total refuse collected—actual	13,264 tons
Weight per 1,000 population per day	14.46 cwt.
Number of premises	16,040
Average haul	2.25 miles
Frequency of collection	weekly
Kerbside collection (percentage of total collection)	Nil
Total refuse disposed of	13,264 tons
Method of disposal—controlled tipping	100%
Rateable Value	£451,339
Product of 1d. rate	£1,892
Rate in £ (Collection and Disposal)	1s. 2d.

Street Cleansing

The availability of the mechanical sweepers for 569 working days compared with 472 days the previous year did much to reduce the problems of street cleansing. The 'flying squad' gave daily attention to the main roads paying particular attention to bus stops and places usually favoured for the reception of litter.

The costs for the work rose steeply and showed increases over the previous year of 27% in the net cost per street mile cleansed, and 25% in the net cost per 1,000 population; transport charges which were up by £900 were mainly responsible.

Details of the work of the vehicles is as follows:

	<i>Number of Loads</i>	<i>Weight Tons</i>	<i>Loads of Water</i>	<i>Working Days</i>
No. 1 Lewin Sweeper	296	612	223	229
No. 2 Lewin Sweeper	97	192	70	75
No. 3 Bedford Lacre Sweeper	341	782	250	265
	734	1586	543	569
Street sweepings moved by other vehicles	25	37	—	
Total	759	1623	543	

Gully Cleansing

The emptying of street gullies is by mechanical means, and proceeded in a routine manner.

COST STATEMENT, 1956-1957

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Street Sweeping and Watering</i>	<i>Street and Gully Cleansing</i>	<i>Total</i>
Revenue Account—			
Gross Expenditure—	£	£	£
Labour	3430	344	3774
Transport	4565	1099	5664
Plant, equipment, building, etc.	413	43	456
Other items	—	—	—
Total	8408	1486	9894
Unit Costs—	£	s. d.	s. d.
Net cost per street mile cleansed	117	—	—
Net cost per 1,000 gullies cleansed	£ —	£ 130	£ —
Net cost per 1,000 population	167	29	196

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Mileage of streets cleansed	71.83
Frequency of cleansing—	
At least once daily	4%
Three to five times weekly	0%
Twice weekly	12%
Once weekly	80%
Less than once weekly	4%
Number of street gullies cleansed	2,220
Number of gully cleansings	11,431
Weight of street and gully refuse	2,523 tons

Cesspools

The number of cesspools cleansed was 265, loads removed were 609 and the cost was £600.

Sanitary Accommodation

The following figures show the considerable progress that has been made since the amalgamation in 1934:

Year ending				<i>W.C.'s</i>	<i>Bins</i>	<i>Pans</i>	<i>Ashpits Privies</i>	<i>Dry Ashpits</i>	<i>Cesspools</i>
31st March									
1935	..	..	..	10458	10388	143	262	108	135
1957	..	..	..	17300	16420	70	3	1	121

Public Conveniences

The following conveniences are cleansed daily by this Department.

Pearson Street, Brierley Hill	..	..	Male and Female.
Church Street, Brierley Hill	..	..	Male and Female.
Cottage Street, Brierley Hill	..	..	Male and Female.
Mill Street, Brierley Hill	..	..	Male.
High Street, Quarry Bank	..	..	Male and Female.
High Street, Brockmoor	..	..	Male and Female.
High Street, Pensnett	..	..	Male and Female.
High Street, Pensnett	..	..	Male.
The Cross, Kingswinford	..	..	Male and Female.
Enville Road, Wallheath	..	..	Male and Female.
Lawnswood Road, Wordsley	..	..	Male and Female.
High Street, Wordsley	..	..	Male.

C. H. CRAWFORD,

Deputy Cleansing Superintendent.

